

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 COPENH 02170 041327Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----101072 050500Z /23
R 041045Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6267
IOE RUFHNA/USMISSION USNATO 2384

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 2170

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, MNUC, NPG, DA
SUBJECT: STATEMENTS ON ERW

REFS: A. COPENHAGEN 2116, B. COPENHAGEN 1879, C. COPENHAGEN 2121

1. IN THE COURSE OF MY APRIL 3 MEETING WITH MFA PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN, HE STRONGLY REITERATED THE POINTS MADE BY ANOTHER FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL LAST WEEK TO MY POLITICAL COUNSELOR (PARA 3 REFTEL C). THE DANES DEEPLY REGRET THAT ERW DISCUSSIONS HAD NOT BEEN BROUGHT TO A HEAD IN NAC AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. DANES WOULD HAVE LIKED TO SEE THIS ISSUE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE NPG MEETING APRIL 18-19.

2. THE ERW ISSUE IS BEING KEPT ALIVE BOTH IN THE DANISH AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA. JORGENSEN NOTED THAT ONLY DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY WHILE IN COPENHAGEN DANIEL ELLSBERG WAS INTERVIEWED ON DANISH TV AND CONDEMNED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEUTRON BOMB. CONTINUATION OF THE DEFERRAL OF A DECISION WILL LEAD TO A DETERIORATION IN DANISH PUBLIC OPINION MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR THE DANISH GOVERNMENT TO HOLD TO POSITIONS SUCH AS DEMONSTRATED IN THE REPLY TO BREZNEV'S LETTER AND IN THE INSTRUCTIONS AMBASSADOR SVART HAD RECEIVED ON THE ERW.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 COPENH 02170 041327Z

3. IN CONCLUSION, JORGENSEN INQUIRED WHETHER ANY DATE HAD BEEN SET FOR NAC TO TAKE UP THIS QUESTION. I WAS UNABLE TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION. HE SAID THAT DANISH POLICE WILL CERTAINLY BE IN A POSITION TO HANDLE DEMONSTRATIONS IN FREDERICKSHAVN AT TIME OF NPG MEETING, BUT HE IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE ADVERSE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT THE DEMONSTRATIONS WILL HAVE ON PUBLIC OPINION IN DENMARK.

DEAN

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